

**United States Attorney's Office
Twin Cities Violent Crime Task Force**

OBJECTIVE

The Twin Cities Violent Crime Task Force (Task Force), under the leadership of United States Attorney Erica MacDonald, will bring together federal, state and local law enforcement resources to mitigate the extraordinary spike in gun and other violent crimes since Memorial Day.

STRATEGY

This Task Force brings together additional federal and state law enforcement resources to assist local law enforcement to investigate, arrest, and prosecute individuals responsible for gun violence in our communities. The Task Force's efforts will focus on those using firearms during the commission of violent crimes such as shootings, robberies, carjackings, or in furtherance of drug trafficking activities and offenders who possess firearms illegally (such as convicted felons).

The Task Force will serve as a coordination hub for information sharing and law enforcement operations focused on violent crime within the Twin Cities, including Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. Law enforcement partners will utilize the Task Force to maximize information sharing and de-confliction, ensure investigations are swiftly presented for prosecution, and make sure identified criminal suspects are tracked across jurisdictions.

Each partner agency may utilize their own agency's investigative tools to identify appropriate subjects for potential federal or state charges and may request available investigative resources from each of the partner agencies.

In addition to potential state charges, the following charges provide an example of those federal charges that should be considered by the Task Force when investigating gun and violent crimes:

- Possession of firearms or ammunition by prohibited persons (18 U.S.C. § 922(g))
 - Felons
 - Drug users
 - Subject to a court order restraining the person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or child of the intimate partner
 - Individuals convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence
- Selling or otherwise disposing of firearms or ammunition to any person prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition
- Possession of machine guns (18 U.S.C. § 922(o))
- Possession of short barreled rifles or weapons otherwise requiring registration under the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. § 5861(d))
- Federal drug laws under Title 21

- Armed robberies that affect interstate commerce (Hobbs Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1951)
- Carjacking (18 U.S.C. § 2119)
- Possession and/or use of firearms during and in furtherance of drug trafficking and/or crimes of violence (18 U.S.C. §924(c))

LOGISTICS

To match the current operational threat environment, Task Force members will be assigned to the same daily shift from 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., which is to be extended daily or during the weekends as operations dictate. A daily briefing will be held at 10 a.m. with participation from the multi-agency intelligence cell and each agency’s operational component. The focus of this effort will be on activity completed within the prior 24 hours as well as the outlook for the next 24 hours and beyond. The Task Force will be housed in a central multi-agency command center. This Task Force’s work will be evaluated at the end of an initial thirty (30) day period to determine whether its work should continue for an additional time period.

RESOURCES

United States Attorney’s Office

The United States Attorney’s Office will embed one AUSA full time at the Task Force command center with the full Violent Crime/Firearms Section focused on this work.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco Firearms & Explosives

ATF will have an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) at the command center to oversee, coordinate, and assign ATF Special Agents as well as coordinate any additional assistance needed from ATF.

ATF special agents from the Minneapolis and the St. Paul Criminal Enforcement Groups will continue to focus on violent gun crime and are available to assist with investigations anywhere they are needed. It is anticipated that ATF will maintain four agents in Minneapolis and four agents in St. Paul on a rotating basis.

In addition, ATF’s Explosives Detection Canine will be available to assist with the search and recovery of critical evidence at any scene. ATF’s Crime Gun Intelligence Center will also be available remotely for analytical assistance.

Drug Enforcement Administration/ Minneapolis

The DEA will embed one Intelligence Analyst full time at the Task Force command center with the full drug-related violent-crime/firearms section focused on this work.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The FBI will provide various resources as detailed below:

One Supervisory Special Agent
Five Special Agents (SAs)
One Intelligence Analyst
Two Staff Operations Specialist
One Operational Support Technician
One Supervisory Intelligence Analyst
One CAST Member

On standby

Three SAs
One CAST

United States Marshal Service

The USMS will embed one Deputy U.S. Marshal full-time at the Task Force command center, with the Task Force operations deputies and officers focusing on fugitive apprehension.

United States Secret Service (USSS)

The Minneapolis Field Office will embed two Special Agents and one Investigative Analyst to assist with USSS core violations and also be utilized at the direction of the United States Attorney's Office. Also, the USSS will provide additional Special Agents as needed to support the Task Force at the direction of the U.S. Attorney.

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

The BCA will provide one Assistant Special Agent in Charge who supervises its task force officers, a Special Agent, and an Intelligence Analyst. In addition to the human resources, the BCA will provide access to mobile digital forensic analysis tools, additional personnel as needed for targeted operations, and assist in prioritizing case submission to its crime lab.

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office

The HCSO will assign an intelligence supervisor and up to one intelligence analyst to support the Task Force operations.

Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

The RCSO will provide one Sergeant and one analyst to aid the Task Force operations.

Dakota County Sheriff's Office

The DCSO will provide two deputies to aid the Task Force operations.

Minneapolis Police Department

The Minneapolis Police Department will provide a Lieutenant from its Gang Interdiction Team ("GIT") and one analyst to support operations.

St. Paul Police Department

The St. Paul Police Department will assign a Deputy Chief to serve as the department liaison to aid the Task Force operations.